

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, no claims have been amended. Claims 1-16 are pending and under consideration.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC 102

At numbered paragraph 2, claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Komori (US 6,782,215) (hereinafter “Komori”). This rejection is traversed.

Komori discloses an electrophotographic printer that includes a charging roller 1, a photosensitive drum 2, a high voltage power supply for charge 3, a charging current detection unit 4, a laser scanning unit 5, a developing unit 6, a high voltage supply for development 7, a transfer roller 8, a high voltage power supply for transfer 9, an arithmetic and control unit 12 and a transfer current detection unit 14. Komori, Figure 2.

Claims 1-4

Claim 1 recites: “...a high voltage power supply applying predefined voltages to the respective charging, developing, and transfer rollers...” In contrast to claim 1, Komori discloses three separate high voltage supplies for charging, development and transfer.

Claims 2-4 are dependent on claim 1 and are therefore believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

Claims 5 and 6

Claim 5 recites: “...determining a charging voltage to be applied to the charging roller based on the calculated transfer roller resistance value and charging roller resistance value.” In contrast to claim 5, Komori discloses that the CPU 12 performs an arithmetic operation according to the changing current I_{mc} detected by the charging current detection unit 4 and the transfer current I_{tr} detected by the transfer current detection unit 14 and controls the charging high voltage power supply 3 to change the charging voltage $-V_{mc}$. Komori, column 3, lines 57-63. Komori does not disclose determining a charging voltage to be applied to the charging roller

based on the calculated transfer roller resistance value and charging roller resistance value as is recited in claim 5.

Claim 6 is dependent on claim 5 and is therefore believed to allowable for the reasons discussed above.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

Claims 7-14

Claim 7 recites: "...a resistance detection unit to measure the resistance of the charging device and the transfer device..." In contrast to claim 7, Komori discloses a charging current detection unit 4 and a transfer current detection unit 14. Komori, Figure 2. Komori does not disclose a resistance detection unit as is recited in claim 7.

Claims 8-14 are dependent on claim 7 and are therefore believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

Claims 15 and 16

Claim 15 recites: "...determining a resistance value between a charging device and a photosensitive drum..." In contrast to claim 15, Komori discloses that if the surface of the photosensitive drum 2 is charged, the surface potential $-V_{sf}$ of the photosensitive drum is near $-(V_{mc}-V_{th})$, and the charging current I_{mc} is reduced. Komori, column 4, lines 24-28. Komori does not disclose determining a resistance value between a charging device and a photosensitive drum as is recited in claim 15.

Claim 16 is dependent on claim 15 and is therefore believed to allowable for the reasons discussed above.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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